

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, September 19, 2011, 4:30 pm, at City Hall, Council Chambers. Present at said meeting were Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Aimee Jacobsen, Pat Flannelly and Attorney Andy Gutwein. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Lee Booth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Absent from the meeting were Park Board member Richard Shockley and Council members Ann Hunt, Gerald Thomas & Gerry Keen.

Karen convened the Board at 4:34pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the August 15, 2011 meeting. Aimee motioned to approve the minutes. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing.

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

-The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Global Fest was held on Saturday, September 3. It seemed like attendance was down this year and I believe that was due to the extremely hot weather. We did have a steady stream of people, just not as many as in the past. A storm came through about 7:30 and we ended up canceling everything outside and moving the entertainment inside. The Naturalization Ceremony was held on Friday, and we ended up moving that in to the multi-purpose room at Morton. There were only 65 new citizens being naturalized so that gave us a little extra room. The Judge also allowed us to put the Purduettes on stage with him. Usually no one else except his security people are allowed on stage with him. It all worked out well and I believe those in attendance were very appreciative of the event being moved inside. I would like to thank our volunteer committee members for all their work throughout the year. They are : Linda Eales/Naturalization; Ann Brandyberry/Volunteers; Tanny Dawson-Snyder/Entertainment; Karen Springer/Commercial Vendors; Dot Wankat/Food Vendors; the International Center for organizing the International Welcome and Lisa Ncube, Sonya Margerum and Nick Schenkel. Without their efforts, Global Fest would not be what it is, as the Mayor said, Global Fest is a “true West Lafayette community event”.

**Parks** – Lee reported on the following:

- Inspections are available
- Painting the shelter at University Farm Park
- Finishing up Tommy Johnston by adding a grill and coal bin. The playground was resurfaced along with Morton
- Helped out with another Global Fest and Arts on the Wabash
- Quite a few sections of trails were sealed

**Recreation Report** – Chris reported on the following:

- Registrations are now being accepted for the fall classes.
- Brochures were mailed at the end of August. Priority registrations were given to mail-in registrations with all other forms of registrations beginning on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

- The fall Volleyball program for Grades 4, 5 & 6 began this past Saturday, September 15 at Happy Hollow School. Hali Stout is offering instructions for this five week program. Currently we have 23 children enrolled.

**Morton Center** – Brenda reported on the following:

- The summer registration total for Morton's classes is 970 compared to last year's summer total of 1,123. Unfortunately, that is a decrease of 13.6%. Part of this could be that we didn't have our theater classes this year because the instructor wanted to take the summer off.
- Morton has recovered from Global Fest on September 3. The Festival for India was held the following Saturday. The Mayor attended and said it was very nice. Our carpets have been cleaned and everything returned to normal locations.
- Approximately 75 people attended WALLA's political forum on Wednesday, September 14.
- Area IV's Senior Art Show is on display at Morton Room 106 through October 7. We have some very talented seniors that have work in the exhibit.
- The Arts Education Committee, which I am a member of, had a press release on Friday launching an Educators' Database to help educators connect with community art education programs. The site is [www.tippecanoearts.org/Educators](http://www.tippecanoearts.org/Educators). The Committee was organized to help initiate part of the Cultural Plan drawn up for Lafayette/West Lafayette several years ago through Tippecanoe Arts Federation.
- Art on the Wabash was held Sunday, September 18, and went well despite the damp weather.
- As part of the Coalition for Living Well After 50, we are encouraging everyone to attend the Just Walk event which is being given on Sunday, October 23. Family friendly activities take place at 1 pm and the walk starts at 2 pm at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds. Participants in the free walk may walk the half mile or two mile course. Door prizes will be awarded. Pre-registration forms are available at Morton. The City of West Lafayette is recruiting people for a team to walk that day.

## **Old Business**

### **University Farm Park**

Pennie reported that renovation started on August 1<sup>st</sup> and was completed by August 26<sup>th</sup>, that's four weeks which is pretty fast. All the work was done by Wampler Works. She passed around pictures to show the progression of construction. As Tom James and her were doing a safety audit of the equipment the neighbors were already enjoying the equipment. They commented on how fast the project was completed. We will be having a ribbon cutting sometime this fall.

### **Tommy Johnston Park**

Joe reported that we are waiting for delivery of some new picnic tables that will go in the renovated shelter. We still will be relocating the swing set support structure and on the 27<sup>th</sup> around 10 am we will have a little tour with the Redevelopment Commission since they funded the project. We will have an event sometime next month. We are still waiting for the new sign to be constructed and installed. The park is heavily used, especially on weekends. There are also some renovated fitness equipment signs to be

completed and installed and a new electric box. Joe gave kudos to the Chuancey Cooperative guys; they are doing regular litter pick up in the park.

## **New Business**

### **Go Greener Commission E-waste proposal**

Apruna Puri from the Go Greener Commission requested use of Cumberland Park for a e-waste disposal site – the proper way to dispose of used electronic items. Oscar Winski would be present to accept items. National Recycling day is Saturday, November 5. Oscar Winski would charge \$15 to transfer information off a computer onto a disc, all other items would be free to dispose of. Joe mentioned that the Wildcat Wildlife Rehabilitation Center is doing a run that day so he suggested that she contact them and coordinate times so there wouldn't be a conflict. Aimee motioned to allow the Go Greener Commission the use Cumberland Park parking lot for the e-waste event on November 5 with time to be determined. John seconded the motion and the motion carried. The Board agreed to be a sponsor of the event.

### **West Lafayette School Board**

Karen reported that Happy Hollow School has been designated a Blue Ribbon School by the US Department of Education. This is a very prestigious honor given to a select number of schools each year. Only 304 public and private schools nationwide received the designation this year. It involves a very extensive application process. Happy Hollow received the award for continued exceptional performance. Happy Hollow joins the Junior/Senior High School who received the Blue Ribbon Award in 2003.

Yesterday we held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Student Technology Instructional Commons at the Junior/Senior High School. The Junior High locker bay area has been remodeled into an open space with seating to be used by students for classes and during lunch time. The area also contains four televisions, wireless internet and live feed from the auditorium and the gym. It will also serve as a welcoming area for concerts, sporting events, and community programs. The project was totally funded by community donations - \$100,000 (total cost) has been raised.

### **Wabash River**

Andy commented that there is a meeting coming up. Joe mentioned that he attended the County's ribbon cutting on their trail extension to make a safe connection to Fort Ouiatenon last Friday. It is four tenths of a mile separated side asphalt trail along South River Road.

## **Other**

### **Boat House**

Joe reported Dave Kucik is requesting to move their existing dock from Fort Ouiatenon to the sandbar area near Tapawingo Park (as a temporary dock tied up to a tree) due to low water. Andy suggested they put signage up reading "Purdue Crew Use Only". Pat motioned to approve the temporary dock request and that there be signage added, as discussed. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Beautification**

-Dan reported that he has requested quotes for tree planting along the Northwest Greenway Trail segment from Kalberer north and west to Morehouse Road, around the Tippecanoe Memorial Garden Cemetery. They were received today and opened at the Board of Works meeting. Sixty-nine trees will be planted around that area. Lee is working with Deaton Tree Company to remove some of the scrub trees before the new plantings.

-The West Lafayette Tree Fund has started trimming trees in the University Farm area. They will be doing that for the next six Fridays.

-He is working on the Adopt-a-Spot program.

-Three temporary staff have been hired to help get the parks landscaping looking better. In addition, two Purdue students who are required to put in community service hours will be starting this week. Also, two adults have been helping us. John MacDonald has been trimming trees in several of the parks and Paul Butler has been working on the trails and other tasks at Celery Bog Nature Area.

Ann added that Don Staley from Purdue is going to speaking at the Tree Fund meeting on October 11 at noon about the rain gardens they are installing around parking lots.

### **Purchase Order**

Lee presented Purchase Order number 9332, to Mr. Fence It for \$3,145 to install a batting cage at the Pony field. Pat made a motion to approve the completion of the work. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Cumberland School**

Pennie reported that the Department received a request from the Cumberland Elementary School for 35 family ice skating passes for Family Math Night. Aimee made a motion to give 35 single admissions ice skating passes. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Pay Claims**

Aimee motioned for claims to be paid. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Karen recognized Leon Trachtman as a past Park Board member who was a high quality individual whose actions spoke louder than his words and when he did speak everyone stopped and listened. He was a very wise man. She recognize him for his years of service to the community, not only on the Park Board but his 27 years of service to the School Board for which he received a state award, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a School Board member - an Indiana School Board Association annual award.

She participated in the American Heart Association walk a week ago. It started at Ross Enterprise and went along our trails and she heard lots of positive comments made about how nice our trail system is.

Our next Park Board meeting will be October 17 at the Celery Bog unless we hear other wise.

**Adjourn**

Karen called for the meeting to adjourn at 5:23pm. Pat motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary